

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

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TOPIC Soviet Clothing Depot at Bernau

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EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 1 September 1951

REFERENCES 25X1

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REMARKS **RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY**

1. In mid-June 1951, source learned that Unit in Bernau received 600 gray-colored tents and 400 camouflage-colored tents from the Sparfeld firm in Leipzig on 29 May. *
2. The rate of outgoing shipments from the Soviet clothing depot at Bernau considerably surpassed that of incoming shipments until about the second half of June 1951. Thereafter, outgoing shipments of supplies discontinued, and the store rooms, especially those in Section I, were filled up to the ceiling with boxes which were shipped in mostly at night. **
3. The following shipments arrived at the depot between 27 June and 5 July 1951:
 - 27 June. Two railroad carloads of sewing machines from Halle, at Section I.
 - 30 June. Coal on trucks
 - 2 July. Legs of boots from the Kriewen & Co Firm on Chaussee Strasse, Berlin, on four trucks,
 - 4 and 5 July. Undetermined goods on five trucks. ***
4. The following shipments left the depot between 9 June and 6 July 1951:
 - 9 June. Wooden boxes, 100 x 50 x 25 cm, from Section I on trucks left the depot empty.
 - 20 and 23 June. Wooden boxes, about 100 x 50 x 25 cm, from Section II, which were loaded on six railroad cars on the spur running past Section I.
 - 28 June. Uniform coats and blouses on two trucks, Eberswalde.
 - 29 June. Three canvas-covered trucks, left the depot for an undetermined destination.
 - 2 July. Uniform coats and trousers on two trucks, an undetermined destination.
 - 6 July. Boxes on two trucks, including for an undetermined destination.

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5. The workshop space in Section II was considerably enlarged by several rooms which had been vacated for this purpose. The tailor's shop was subdivided into one section making uniforms and one section making underwear. By hiring new workers and taking over workers from the former army clothing depot II, the work force of the uniform-making shop was brought up to 126 employees, that of the underwear-making shop to 43, and that of the shoemaker's shop to 29. It was said that more workmen would be hired.
6. Records of the tailor shop specified that 1,420 pairs of trousers, 1,260 blouses and 1,140 overcoats were completed between 1 February and 1 May 1951 and subsequently stored at the depot. The material used for the overcoats was first cut in Cottbus and then delivered to the tailorshop in Bernau.
7. On 21 June, 30 soldiers, most of them NCOs, were seen leaving the administration building of the depot with baggage. A short time later, 30 young Soviet women in civilian clothes arrived with baggage and took up quarters in the administration building.

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Comment. [redacted] the Soviet main clothing depot of the GOFU in Bernau, [redacted] consists of Depot I, i.e. the main depot on Weissensestrasse, and Depot II, i.e. the branch depot on Boernickerstrasse. The leather and canvas-working firm in Leipzig was frequently reported to have delivered large quantities of tents and camouflage covers to the Soviet Depot in Bernau. [redacted]

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